

Submitter: Victor Nieves Garcia
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or
Topic: SB427

Victor Nieves
Portland OR
97217
nievesvictor123@gmail.com
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Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 427

Dear Chair Jeff Golden and Members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire,

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 427, which seeks to prevent water right changes that would further diminish streamflows in Oregon. As someone who deeply values Oregon's natural resources, I believe this bill is a necessary step toward protecting our state's rivers, fish populations, and overall ecological health.

Oregon's waterways are already under immense pressure due to increasing demands for water, prolonged drought conditions, and the effects of climate change. SB 427 ensures that voluntary water right changes do not further deplete streamflows, which are essential for maintaining water quality, supporting fish and wildlife habitats, and preserving the recreational and economic benefits that healthy rivers provide.

This legislation is a crucial measure to safeguard our rivers for future generations. It strikes a responsible balance by allowing for water use while preventing unnecessary harm to the environment. By ensuring that changes in water appropriation do not result in further depletion of streamflows, we can better protect Oregon's diverse aquatic ecosystems and the communities that rely on them.

I urge the committee to advance SB 427 and support policies that promote sustainable water management. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Victor Nieves-Garcia